



UNCLASSIFIED

8/8/77

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION MEMORANDUM

AL132

8 AUG 1977

S/S

TO: The Acting Secretary

FROM: ARA - William P. Stedman, Jr., Acting

SUBJECT: The President's Interest in Argentine Human Rights Improvements

ISSUE FOR DECISION

Whether to sign the attached memorandum to Dr. Brzezinski commenting upon the human rights situation in Argentina.

ESSENTIAL FACTORS

The President is interested in recent signs of human rights improvement in Argentina.

-- If these improvements were real rather than cosmetic, our Embassy in Buenos Aires was instructed to mention the President's interest to the Argentine government.

-- At Yazoo City on July 21 the President said, "We have seen recently in Argentina 342 political prisoners, who had been there for a long time, released."

-- Jody Powell was quoted in the New Yorker on July 18, as saying, "In January, Argentina began publishing a list of those persons arrested or detained under state of siege powers, and in April it released former Senator Hipolito Solari Irigoyen, who had been held without trial for eight months; it also has granted the International Committee of the Red Cross permission to visit its prisons."

The attached memorandum reports on recent human rights developments in Argentina and on how our Embassy handled its instructions.

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPs

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

(X) Release () Excise () Deny

Exemption(s):

Declassify: () In Part (X) In Full

(-) Classify as () Extend as () Downgrade to

Date Declassify on Reason

GDS

UNCLASSIFIED

800177

8084853

UNCLASSIFIED

- 2 -

Recommendation:

That you initial the attached memorandum to Dr. Brzezinski.

Attachment:

Memorandum to Dr. Brzezinski.

Drafted: ARA/ECA:FERondon:jh
8/8/77:x29166

Concurrence: D/HA:MSchneider *MS*
P - Mr. Tice *MS*
A/P - Mr. Feinberg *MS*

UNCLASSIFIED